

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 NEA-10

/077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9473

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 1506

FOR OES/KRATZER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, PARM, CA

SUBJ: STEAM GENERATOR SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

REF: OTTAWA 1469

1. THIS CABLE COMPLETES INTERIM REPLY CONTAINED IN REFTEL.

2. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SHOULD BE HELPFUL
IN ASSESSING COMBUSTION ENGINEERING LICENSING REQUEST:

A. CANADIAN OFFICIALS FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY
COMBUSTION ENGINEERING WAS APPROACHED RATHER THAN B&W,
FOR REASON CONTAINED PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL. PERHAPS APPROACH TO
COMBUSTION ENGINEERING MAY HAVE BEEN MADE BECAUSE B&W
WOULD BE IN DIFFICULT POSITION TO RESPOND TO AN INDIAN
REQUEST FOR TWO REASONS:

(I) CANADIAN B&W IS BACKLOGGED WITH ORDERS AND
HAVING DIFFICULTY MEETING CANADIAN DOMESTIC REQUIREMENTS,
AND

(II) EXTAFF INFORMALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISES THAT
THERE WOULD BE NO QUESTION IN ITS MIND THAT IF INDIANS WANT
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DEGREE OF TECHNOLOGY WHICH B&W COULD PROVIDE, GOC WOULD

REQUIRE FULL SAFEGUARDS ON ANY REACTOR STATING USING THAT TECHNOLOGY.

B. WITH RESPECT TO STEAM GENERATING TECHNOLOGY ALREADY TRANSFERRED TO RAPP, THE PICTURE IS SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED. IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE STEAM GENERATORS IN RAPP II AND II ARE DOUGLAS POINT TECHNOLOGY AND HENCE OLDER TECHNOLOGY THAN EVEN THAT INCORPORATED IN PICKERING. MONTREAL LOCOMOTIVE FABRICATED THE STEAM GENERATORS FOR RAPP I AND SHIPPED THESE TO INDIA WHERE THEY WERE FIELD ASSEMBLED WITH THE HELP OF A COMPANY KNOWN AS LARSON TURBO. THE LATTER COMPANY HAD REPRESENTATIVES IN MONTREAL LOCOMOTIVE SHOPS IN MONTREAL DURING FABRICATION OF STEAM GENERATORS FOR RAPP I. BECAUSE OF ABRUPT TERMINATION OF CONTACT BETWEEN CANADIANS AND INDIANS AT TIME OF INDIAN TEST NO ONE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE SEEMS TO KNOW WITH CERTAINTY WHO FABRICATED RAPP II STEAM GENERATORS. ASSUMPTION IS THAT FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION WAS DONE BY LARSON TURBO.

C. WHEN CANADIANS AND INDIANS WERE STILL COOPERATING, I.E., BEFORE INDIAN TEST, TENTATIVE PLANS WERE MADE TO UPGRADE THE TECHNOLOGY WHICH WOULD GO INTO THE STEAM GENERATORS AT MAPP, EVEN THOUGH MAPP REACTORS WOULD STILL HOLD TO 200 MEGAWATT SIZE. AGAIN, AVAILABLE CANADIAN OFFICIALS ARE NOT SURE WHETHER INDIANS HAVE FOLLOWED THROUGH ON THIS OR WHETHER THEY WILL CONTINUE TO USE DOUGLAS POINT TECHNOLOGY WHICH IS SIMPLER AND ALREADY AVAILABLE TO THEM. NARORA (PHONETIC SPELLING) WHICH IS THE POWER STATION SCHEDULE TO COME ON LINE AFTER MAPP WILL REPORTEDLY CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO 200 MEGAWATT REACTOR SIZE. THIS BEING THE CASE, THE OLDER DOUGLAS POINT TECHNOLOGY COULD BE EQUALLY WELL USED AT NARORA.

C. CONTINUING TO USE DOUGLAS POINT TECHNOLOGY, WHILE IT WILL GIVE INDIANS RELIABLE WORKING POWER PLANTS, NONETHELESS REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE SACRIFICE IN STEAM GENERATING EFFICIENCY AS COMPARED TO MODERN TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED IN CURRENT AND FUTURE CANADIAN CANDUS. IN ADDITION, THE OLDER TECHNOLOGY, EVEN THOUGH APPROPRIATE TO 200 MEGAWATT FACILITIES FOR WHICH IT WAS DESIGNED, CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY REQUIRE LARGER CAPITAL OUTLAY TODAY, THAN THE NEWER TECHNOLOGY WHICH COULD BE SCALED DOWNWARD FOR USE IN 200 MEGAWATT PLANTS.

3. GIVEN CANADIAN SENSIBILITIES REGARDING NUCLEAR ASSISTANCE TO INDIA (SEE OTTAWA 1494), THERE IS LITTLE REASON TO DOUBT THAT ANY CANADIAN FIRM OR SUBSIDIARY WHICH PROPOSED TO ASSIST INDIA IN STEAM GENERATING

TECHNOLOGY EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY TO THE EXTENT OF
MODERNIZING OLD DOUGLAS POINT TECHNOLOGY, WOULD NOT BE
PERMITTED TO DO SO UNLESS INDIA AGREED TO SAFEGUARDS
ON ANY NUCLEAR POWER STATION INCORPORATING WHATEVER
ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY WAS TRANSFERRED.
ENDERS

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